

soldiers. She recently said, "Sometimes it can be monotonous stuff, but if we're talking about nuclear, biological, and chemical gear and we go to war, then this is pretty important stuff."

While the Army recognizes the dedicated efforts of Ms. Bright, her award should also serve to acknowledge the vital role that all civilian employees play in our Nation's defense. As we continue to keep our soldiers deployed all around the world in our thoughts and prayers, I rise to also thank the thousands of civilian employees like Ms. Bright who also serve our Nation.

I congratulate Ms. Bright on her tremendous service to the soldiers of Fort Knox, the entire Army and our great Nation. Thank you, Jeannie.●

CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF MICHIGAN AFSCME COUNCIL 25, AFL-CIO

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today I commemorate the Michigan American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFSCME, Council 25, AFL-CIO for 25 years of dedication to State and local government employees. On March 14, 2003, members and supporters of Michigan AFSCME Council 25 will gather to celebrate the commitment this organization has shown and the support it has provided to working families in my home State of Michigan.

For over six decades, AFSCME and its members have worked to combat adversity in the workplace. What began as an effort to save civil service jobs expanded to become an adaptive and dynamic collective bargaining organization. AFSCME has thrived throughout its history by creatively meeting the difficult challenges that it and its members have faced. Today, the organization is a national leader among organized labor movements.

For the past quarter century, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 has represented and advocated for public employees throughout Michigan. The organization's membership includes employees of State, county, and municipal governments, school districts, public hospitals, and nonprofit agencies. Since the formation of Michigan AFSCME Council 25 by special convention in March of 1978, it has been a strong force dedicated to improving working conditions and advocating for its members.

Today, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 represents over 60,000 public employees and is organized into more than 300 local unions. Workers of virtually all public service occupations find a specialized voice within AFSCME. Because of the unwavering dedication that Michigan AFSCME Council 25 has shown to its community, working families and public employees have seen their working conditions improve and their voices heard.

I know that my Senate colleagues will join me in offering our congratula-

tions to Michigan AFSCME Council 25 and its members as they celebrate their 25 years of unwavering support for Michigan's working families.●

MONTE MADNESS

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to express a little home State pride. It was described as "Monte Madness."

For months, Montanans logged on to the Internet to cast their votes. Billboards hailed his name. Communities rallied around him. Montana's political leaders backed him. And our State beamed with pride on January 1 when the University of Montana's Monte the Grizzly was crowned Capital One National Mascot of the Year.

For the first time, mascots across the country competed in an online election for the right to represent their school in national competition. Monte faced stiff competition from mascots like Penn State's Nittany Lion and the University of Florida's Albert the Gator. In the end, Monte won the distinguished title, earning the UM mascot program \$10,000 and a lot of national exposure.

Monte is known for his athletic prowess, his slick dance moves, and his knack for firing up Griz fans. It's easy to understand why Missoula Mayor Mike Kadas declared February 1 as Monte Day.

The highflying mascot is an unsung hero of the University of Montana and a valuable member of the Missoula community. There is no doubt Monte is the hardest working mascot in collegiate athletics. He deserves the national recognition. He is the most spirited, most athletic, hardest hitting, best crowd surfing mascot ever to grace a college campus.

I endorsed Monte during his election because he is a mascot for the right reasons—to win ball games and boost Montana athletics.

But Monte is not only a Montana treasure on the field, he is committed to giving back to our communities. Monte often attends parades, community events, and gives his time to help others. He donated \$1,000 he received from the national exposure to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Missoula.

Monte makes us all very proud to be Montanans. May he wear his crown for all to see and ride his Griz-colored Harley for many years to come.●

CARROLL COLLEGE

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Carroll College Saints football team and to congratulate them on their NAIA National Championship.

As you can see, Montana has much to be proud of.

Carroll College is a 4-year college located in Helena, MT, and was ranked as the fourth best western regional comprehensive college by U.S. News and World Report.

In a game that became part of Montana sports legend, the Carroll Saints crushed their opponent, the two-time defending national champion Georgetown Tigers 28-7. The Saints pounded the Tigers in Tennessee and the echoes reached living rooms throughout Montana. We love football in Montana and the Saints gave us a team to be proud to cheer for and follow.

Although the game was magical, magic played no part in the Saints' success. Teamwork, amazing leadership from Coach Mike Van Diest, and hard work, in the weight room, on the field, and in the classroom, led this group of honorable young men through a solid season and an incredible string of playoff games.

Montana's college football teams recruit heavily from the state and many Montanan seniors led this legendary team. Darold Debolt from Great Falls, Casey Fitzsimmons from Chester, Nick Garreffa from Billings, Chris Jones from Helena, Luke Lagomasino from Lincoln, Shane Larson from Miles City, Tyler Maxwell from Helena, Cory Perzinski from Billings, Nick Porrini from Helena, and Heath Wall from Belt, all played their part in creating the unity and teamwork that this team displayed throughout the season.

The National Champion Saints' provided inspiration to all who followed them.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK WALDROUP, SR.

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of a fellow Hoosier and a dear friend, Jack G. Waldroup, Sr., who passed away on March 9, 2003.

Those of us who knew Jack were touched by his kind heart and generous spirit. His life was the embodiment of values Americans have cherished since the founding of our democracy: civic involvement, active political participation, and public service.

Jack loved Indiana. Throughout his days, he always remained close to his beloved home of Knox County. Jack graduated from Oaktown High School in 1946 and then spent time working on his family farm. He also served his community as a Chief Deputy in the Knox County Sheriff's Department. Soon after, Jack assumed his longtime position as a contract administrative assistant at United Engineers and Architects.

Jack's service to his party never faltered, and he became known in Indiana as "Mr. Democrat." Jack served ably as Knox County Democrat Chairman from 1970 to 1984, helping to cultivate and guide countless careers in public service. He could always be counted on for sound advice, and you could be sure he would give it to you straight—without any sugar coating. Jack's keen understanding of the political process coupled with his loyalty and honest advice led him to become a fixture in statewide Indiana politics, and a must-